Industry Profiles 2016

Agricultural Industry

Alberta Government

OVERVIEW

The Agricultural industry[1] in Alberta includes a variety of establishments or services:

- Crop production: farms, orchards, greenhouses, nurseries and other places that grow crops seeds (excluding forestry products);
- Animal production and aquaculture: ranches, farms, feedlots and other places that raise animals, produce animal products or fatten animals;
- Fishing, hunting, and trapping activities: catching fish and other wild animals;
- Agricultural support services for crop production and animal production.

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[1] North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 2007 groups 111, 112, 114, 1151 and 1152, not including support activities for forestry 1153.

SECTION A
BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

1. 2015 Employment and Unemployment Numbers and Rates

Table 1

	Alberta	Agricultural Industry
Employment	2,301,100	62,800
Employment Share	N/A	2.7%
Unemployment	148,000	N/A
Unemployment rate	6.0%	N/A

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0008, 2015
Note: Note: N/A denotes not-applicable. Employment share is obtained by dividing the number of employment in this industry by total employment in Alberta.

For more information on employment numbers or for a historical comparison, please go to the Labour Force Statistics[2] website or Statistics Canada[3].

2. Industry's Growth

- The Agricultural industry accounted for 2.7% of total employment in Alberta in 2015.
- Employment in this industry is expected to decrease at an average rate of -0.1% from 2016 to 2019[4].
- The industry is expected to account for 2.7% of total employment in Alberta in 2016.

For more information, see the Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS)[5] website for descriptions of industries.

[2] See http://work.alberta.ca/labour/labour-force-statistics-and-annual-reviews.html
[3] See http://www.statcan.gc.ca
[4] Alberta Modified Canadian Occupational Projection System (COPS) Outlook 2015 – 2019, Industry Employment Outlook
[5] See http://www.alis.alberta.ca

3. Facts, Trends and Outlook

According to Statistics Canada's National Economic Accounts, the Agricultural industry accounted for approximately 1.2%[6] of Alberta's Gross Domestic Product in 2015, down from 1.4% in 2005. Its contribution to Alberta's total employment declined from 3.1% in 2005 to 2.7% in 2015.

Total employment (the total number of employees and self-employed people, 15 years and over) in 2015 was 3.6% higher than its level in 2014. Over the last 10 years, employment increased by 6,900 from 2005, a 12.3% increase. There were 62,800 employed in the industry in 2015, of whom 82.5% were full time and 17.5% were part time.

Table 2

Characteristic	Alberta	Agriculture
Median Retirement Age (years)	64.3	75.7
Average Number of Hours Worked per Week	36.9	44.3
Multiple Jobholders (% of total employment)	5.6%	5.4%
Average Job Tenure (months)	88.8	235.1
Employees Under Union Coverage (%)	19.7%	N/A
Employees Working Overtime per Week (%)	17.2%	3.0%

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Tables 282-0022, 282-0031, 282-0042, 282-0078 and 282-0084, 2015, and custom tabulation (median retirement age)
Note: The percentage of multiple jobholders is obtained by dividing the number of multiple jobholders by total employment. This calculation method also applies to the percentage of employees under union coverage and the percentage of employees working overtime per week.

[6] This is for North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 2007 code 11: Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting which includes support activities for forestry 1153.

4. Size of Businesses in Alberta and the Industry

Table 3

Establishment Size	Businesses in Alberta		Business in Agriculture	
	Number of Employees	%*	Number of Employees	%*
Less than 20 employees	686,000	35.6%	15,100	74.4%
20 to 99 employees	699,000	36.2%	4,200	20.7%
100 to 500 employees	345,700	17.9%	N/A	N/A
More than 500 employees	195,500	10.1%	N/A	N/A

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0076, 2015

* Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding

Note: N/A denotes data not available due to the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act

Note: Statistics Canada's survey methodology for determining establishment size differs from the one it uses in the Labour Force Survey to determine total employment. As a result, the total number of employees by establishment size will not be the same as total employment in the industry, except by coincidence.

SECTION B
HUMAN RESOURCES PROFILE

1. Occupational Information

Some examples of occupations in the Agricultural industry include:

- farm worker;
- dairy producer;
- greenhouse operator;
- animal care attendant; and
- beekeeper.

For a complete listing of all occupations related to this industry, as well as detailed information on education and skill requirements, visit the Alberta Occupational Profiles[7] website.

2. Demographics: Gender and Age

According to the Labour Force Survey, the gender breakdown in the Agricultural industry in 2015 was as follows:

- women employed: 17,800 people, or 28.3%
- men employed: 45,000 people, or 71.7%

Overall in Alberta, women accounted for 45.1% and men made up 54.9% of total employment (for all industries).

Table 4

Age Characteristics	Employment in Alberta		Employment in Agriculture	
	Number	%*	Number	%*
15-24 years	320,300	13.9%	11,600	18.5%
25-54 years	1,551,700	67.4%	27,700	44.1%
55 years and over	429,100	18.6%	23,500	37.4%

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0008, 2015
*Percentages may not add up 100 due to rounding.

[7] See http://occinfo.alis.alberta.ca/occinfopreview

3. Wages and Salaries

Chart 1

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0072, 2015.
Note: The average hourly wage is obtained by dividing the sum of the wages of all the employees by the total number of employees. The median hourly wage is that wage below which half the employees earn and above which half the employees earn.

Wage and Salary Information for Selected Occupations

Table 5

Occupation	Average Hourly Wage			Average Annual Salary
	Starting	Overall	Top	
General farm worker	$17.09	$20.15	$23.51	$40,969
Farmer and farm manager (dairy producer)	$24.47	$33.60	$45.98	$76,595
Farm supervisor and commercial livestock worker (cattle ranching and farming)	$17.52	$20.50	$23.56	$48,526

Data Source: 2015 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey

For more information on the *2015 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey*, refer to the WAGEINFO* website. For job descriptions, duties, skills and educational requirements of specific occupations in the Agricultural industry, visit the ALIS* website.

* See http://www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo
* See http://www.alis.alberta.ca

SECTION C
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Links to Industry Associations

- Alberta Agricultural Economics Association
  http://aaea.ab.ca/
- Alberta Barley Commission
  http://www.albertabarley.com/
- Alberta Chicken Producers
  http://www.chicken.ab.ca/
- Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency Ltd.
  http://alma.alberta.ca/
- Alberta Milk Producers
  http://www.albertamilk.com/
- Agriculture and Food Council
  http://www.agfoodcouncil.com/
- Alberta Pork
  http://www.albertapork.com/
- Alberta Farm Fresh Producers Association
  http://www.albertafarmfresh.com/
- Canadian Wheat Board
  http://www.cwb.ca/

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Long distance: 1-800-661-3753

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Published: May [illegible]
ISBN [illegible]
ISSN [illegible]